

Pennsylvania Comprehensive Literacy Plan

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Written by reading specialists, university professors, curriculum and instruction specialists, the regional coordinator of Federal programs, early childhood experts and staff development and training specialists

Five Guiding Principles:

1. Literacy as a critical foundation
2. Culture and learning
3. Meeting the needs of all students
4. Evidenced-based instruction
5. High-quality teaching ("Having a high-quality teacher throughout elementary school can substantially offset or even eliminate the disadvantage of low socioeconomic background." (Casey, 2004, p.5, quoting Rivkin, Hanushek and Kain, 2000))
 - a. Job embedded professional development must be an integral part of every school's comprehensive literacy planning
 - b. Teachers must have opportunities to self-reflect, and work with their colleagues as a means of improving the whole school
 - c. "Professional learning is the cornerstone for strengthening the capacity of educators and building learning communities to deliver high literacy standards for every child."
 - d. "Professional learning must become the school's top priority."

